

REMARKS

Prior to this Response, Claims 1-17 were cancelled and Claims 18-34 were pending in this application. Claims 24-28 and 32-33 are withdrawn by this paper.

Election of Species

The Office Action requires election of one of the following species:

- I. Species 1: shown in Figure 6;
- II. Species 2: shown in Figure 7; and
- III. Species 3: shown in Figure 8.

Applicant hereby elects Species 1 for further examination without traverse. The Office Action requires Applicant to identify the claims encompassing the elected species. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 18-23, 29-31 and 34 encompass the elected Species 1. Claims 18 and 29 are asserted to be generic. In the event that Claim 18 is allowed, Applicant requests rejoinder and allowance of withdrawn Claims 24-28. Additionally, in the event that Claim 29 is allowed, Applicant requests rejoinder and allowance of withdrawn Claims 32 and 33.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication includes alterations to the claims, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Summary

Applicant asserts that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner grant allowance of the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney for the Applicant via telephone if such communication would expedite the allowance of this application.

While Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this application, Applicant respectfully requests that Deposit Account No. 11-1410 be charged for any fees deemed owed during the pendency of this application, excluding the issue fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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